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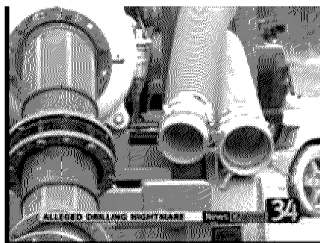
PA Drilling Concerns

Last Update: 3/29 10:15 pm

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PA Drilling Concerns



The possible spill along Route 29 is just another headache for people living in Dimock.

Many families there say natural gas drilling has turned their lives into a living nightmare.

Today, a recently formed organization went out to sites to let Cabot know it is being watched.

Last year, 15 families in Dimock Township filed a lawsuit against Cabot claiming it had basically ruined their lives.

Some peoples drinking water supplies have been contaminated with high amounts of methane gas, lead and arcynic.

Scroggins says, "We are asking for a moratorium, an environmental impact study, just like NY did, to see if we really want this. From what I've seen this is a major polluter. The gas industry is not owning up to it because they're in it for the money."

That's Vera Scroggins, part of the group Citizens for Clean Water for Susquehanna County.

Besides the legal route, there are only some many things residents without deep pockets can do.

But, they're trying.

Because they want problems fixed for themselves and want others to be able to avoid them from the get-go.

Vera Scroggins says, "We want the world to know and see what is happening here. This is not a clean fuel. It's being touted as a clean fuel, but remember it's a fossil fuel. All fossil fuels pollute. We need to disengage from fossil fuels and become independent of them, not to become dependent on another one."

The drill pads and this staging facility on Carter Road are long-term eye-sores and residents say they cause air pollution, noise and traffic issues.

And, at times tensions are high between residents and some workers.

I know because I found myself smack dab in the middle.

"Let me just say that we were not well received by some Cabot employees out here. At one point I was threatened by a bogus law and then that same employee kicked mud on my face and all over my front side. After I recovered from that this guy in the black pickup drove by."

In addition to throwing more mud my way, it bordered on reckless.

And, I didn't even approach the workers.

However, other workers near where I was filming were courteous.

Cabot's spokesman apologized for the actions and said they were unacceptable.

Cabot has also brought in portable water systems for some residents the DEP said needed them.

And, says it respects the people who live in the area.

It is very busy though, about 75 wells are going now.

And more will be drilled this year.

Meanwhile, Scroggins will be watching.

Scroggins says, "I actually go on the sites, I consider myself a citizen to witness and to be extra eyes and ears for the DEP. Because they only have a few inspectors."

The DEP only has one oil and gas inspector and one water quality inspector that monitor Susquehanna County.

It is in the process of hiring 29 more state-wide.

The Citizens for Clean Water website is NEPAgasaction.org.

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